

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon by ejecting an alloy melt onto a cooling roll and rapidly quenching it, said amorphous alloy ribbon continuously produced in one casting step having the total length of 3,000 m or more, comprising grinding said cooling roll while supplying a gas based on CO₂ near a paddle of said alloy melt ejected onto said cooling roll so as to keep an average surface roughness Ra of 0.5 µm or less and a ten-point average surface roughness Rz of 4 µm or less during the casting when the surface roughness of said cooling roll is measured by a method according to JIS B 0601.

2. (original): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 1, wherein the grinding of said cooling roll is carried out with a brush.

3. (previously presented): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 1, wherein an alloy melt comprising 13 atomic % or less of B and 15 atomic % or less of at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition elements of Groups 4A, 5A and 6A, the balance being substantially Fe, is ejected onto said cooling roll and rapidly quenched.

4. (original): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 1, wherein said alloy melt contains 3 atomic % or less of at least one of Cu, Ag and Au.

5. (original): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 1, wherein said gas based on CO₂ starts to be supplied near a paddle of said alloy melt after the surface temperature of said cooling roll has become substantially constant.

6. (original): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 1, wherein said ribbon is cast under the conditions that the peripheral speed of said cooling roll is 35 m/second or less, that the temperature of said melt is from the melting point of its alloy + 50°C to the melting point of its alloy + 250°C, and that a distance between a tip end of a melt-ejecting nozzle and said cooling roll is 200 µm or less.

7. (original): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 6, wherein the peripheral speed of said cooling roll is 20-30 m/second.

8. (original): The method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon according to claim 1, wherein an amorphous alloy ribbon having a thickness of 8-25 µm is produced.

9. (currently amended): A method for producing an amorphous alloy ribbon by ejecting an alloy melt onto a cooling roll and rapidly quenching it, said amorphous alloy ribbon continuously produced in one casting step having the total length of 3,000 m or more, comprising (a) preparing an alloy melt having a composition comprising 13 atomic % or less of B and 15 atomic % or less of at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition elements of Groups 4A, 5A and 6A, the balance being substantially Fe; (b) ejecting said alloy melt at a temperature from the melting point of said alloy + 50°C to the melting point of said alloy + 250°C through a nozzle onto said cooling roll rotating at a peripheral speed of 35 m/second or less, a distance between a tip end of said nozzle and said cooling roll being 200 µm or less; (c) starting to supply a gas based on CO₂ to said alloy melt after the surface temperature of said cooling roll has become substantially constant; and (d) grinding said cooling roll while supplying said gas based on CO₂.

10. (original): A method for producing a nano-crystalline alloy ribbon comprising heat-treating said amorphous alloy ribbon recited in claim 1 at a temperature equal to or higher than the crystallization temperature of said alloy, to form nano-crystalline structure having an average particle size of 100 nm or less.